The Family of Joseph
Companions in the Charism
A publication of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange
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There is a conversation evolving in many Sisters of St. Joseph congregations throughout the country. It begins with a question: How do we best enable our charism and mission to continue to flourish now and well into the future? The answer: We don't fully know, but we do know that pursuing the answer is what needs to happen for the life of the world. Together with our friends, we are moving the conversation forward by exploring the concept of the Family of Joseph.

We believe that many others, beyond vowed members, resonate with our charism and have a desire to carry the mission forward to the dear neighbor without distinction. We believe this is a significant moment in our history and welcome active participation in processes and dialogue that nurture Family of Joseph relationships united in our charism.

In July, we welcomed Sister Carol Zinn, a Sister of St. Joseph of Philadelphia, and over 150 friends to our congregational assembly. Sister Carol guided us through “Our Mutual Journey into the Future: the Mission and Charism of the Family of Joseph.” She framed her presentation in world views of separation and connection, unity and reconciliation, and service to the dear neighbor.

The Hard Parts

From the start, Sister Carol pumped the brakes toward creating a program. “There’s a big temptation to get something done,” she explained. “These kinds of conversations are challenging. We’re not used to dealing with something that is unfolding. This is not about having anything planned. It is about committing to each other. How do we walk with each other in mutuality on a path? How do we do that together?”

The Family of Joseph conversation means listening to many points of view. Lived experience creates lenses of looking at the world and these lenses offer unique expressions of what the Family of Joseph may be. Each brings something to the conversation. At the heart is the charism, and with the charism we are part of one large community.

Identity and relationship among vowed religious and non-vowed Partners in Mission are hard parts of the conversation too. Yet, one thing is clear: employment is not a pre-requisite to be a brother or sister in the Family of Joseph.

The Mysterious Plans of the Sisters

In October, we opened our Chapter. It is an event that occurs every five years. During Chapter, we look at our life and ministries and determine if we carry on the same way or make changes for the good of the mission. As Chapter opened, a group of friends gathered with us for conversation about the Family of Joseph. Our friends might wonder how they fit in. Our plans are about having conversation and, hopefully identifying next steps that we might be able to see and take together. From this perspective of the congregation, we do not want to explore the Family of Joseph by ourselves; we want to do this together.
A **charism** is a gift that flows from God’s love to humans and is endowed with a particular character. For Sisters of St. Joseph, the charism can be described as love that brings people to God and brings people together. It is a charism of unity and reconciliation. Our mission flows from our charism.

For us, this moment in time focuses us on the charism, our gift for the life of the world. We have been gifted with a charism that focuses on unity, on bridge-building, on peace-making, on forgiveness and reconciliation, on the neighbor without distinction, on the abundant love of God.

Many of you, our friends, are also gifted with this same charism. Our charism of unity and love brings us all together. It stands at the center of a circle. We are all in relationship to it. Through it, we are in relationship with one another.

**Companions in the Charism**

Our charism offers us a spiritual path of transformation and enlightenment. This path is less about what we do, and more about who we are and how we walk in the world. This charism we share offers the threshold through which we enter in order to participate in the mission of Jesus today. We all share in this charism and this mission, and we walk a pathway framed by love, reconciliation and bridge-building. A few years ago, we used to speak of Partners in Mission; today we are beginning to understand it as Companions in the Charism. Our way of doing opens up to a way of being, in mutuality with one another.

Whenever we live out of the charism, we participate in divine acts of transformative healing and wholeness for the broken and wounded of our world. Our life (what we call our *being*) now shines forth as our work (what we call *doing*). Our acts of presence are transformative acts of presence to those around us. When we are authentically present as men and women of unity and reconciliation, we are engaged in apostolic presence, in apostolic action. We have been sent on mission, to every place and to every person, without distinction, so that we might give living witness to God’s abundant love. Because of this, it does not matter which of the spiritual and corporal works of mercy we engage in - whether it is teaching, healing, consoling, visiting, praying, suffering – for us, it is less about the *what* and more about the *why*. The *why* is our love for the world, as a generous response to God’s love for us. This is the love that heals wounds and divisions.

The charism stands at the center. This means each of us relates primarily to the charism and secondarily, through the charism we relate to one another. This is a shift in focus and has implications. We are not exploring an associate program. In an associate program, a non-vowed person relates primarily to the religious congregation, to the sisters, and secondarily, through the sisters, to the mission and the charism. The shift in focus we are experiencing is one where the charism stands central to each of our lives (see diagram). Whether we are vowed, married or single, all of us are called to holiness. Together we walk forward to the mission, each in our own way, expressing our love, expressing God’s love for a wounded world. The Family of Joseph are Companions in the Charism.
Family of Joseph Conversation
We asked a few of our friends to share:
- How are you connected with the Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange?
- What does the mission of the Sisters of St. Joseph mean to you?
- To you, what is the Family of Joseph?

Sharon Prather
- Over the last 30 years, I have worked with the Sisters in their health care ministry in Lubbock, Texas, first at St. Mary of the Plains Hospital, now Covenant Health.
- Simply put, the mission of the Sisters of St. Joseph shows us how we can all live our lives. Because of the privilege to work with and learn from the Sisters, I find that I am certainly more reliant on my faith in God, allowing me to be more loving and courageous. The mission is a statement of love, compassion, and mercy put into action. I personally have experienced that unconditional love, compassion, and mercy from the Sisters and strive to express the same on a daily basis.

Wayne Negrete, SJ
- I worked with Sr. Agnes Marie Schon from 1991-1995 in LMU Campus Ministry and we have remained friends ever since. During the late 1990s, I collaborated with Sr. Margaret Eilermann with a support group for Catholic Parents with Gay and Lesbian Children and attended several Partnership gatherings with the CSJs in San Diego. I was in the Art in Spiritual Direction Certificate Program and did an internship in the St. Joseph Health Sponsorship Office with Sr. Susanne Sassus. I currently serve on the Advisory Board for the CSJ Educational Network. I maintain close friends with several CSJs of Orange.
- As a Jesuit, I feel a special closeness to the Sisters of St. Joseph as we both share the experience of the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola. At the heart of Jesus' ministry was “unity and reconciliation” and I feel that I seek to foster that in my educational, spiritual, and pastoral ministry.
- The Family of Joseph is our share and participation in the mission of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange. It is about our companionship in the Lord and our desire to serve those most in need. It is about our dividing up the city into quadrants, going out to these neighborhoods to learn the needs of the people, and helping the “dear neighbor”.

Maria Elena Perales
- I have been the Justice Coordinator for the Sisters of St. Joseph for nearly 10 years. Throughout this time, I have been privileged to get to know the Sisters personally as we work together to be the voice for the voiceless in the community.
- The mission is an opportunity in my life to be of service to vulnerable people, along with the Sisters of St. Joseph, as we strive for a better world.
- To me the Family of Joseph are our brothers and sisters throughout the world working together as one for the good of all.
Companions in the Charism

Julie Malvey

I have been a member of the Sisters’ ministry for nearly 20 years, and currently serve as the Director of Mission Services at Mission Hospital. Over this time I have developed a deeper connection with the healing ministry of Jesus as realized by the Sisters of St. Joseph through their service to our community.

Extending the ministry of Jesus in the tradition of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange is to be of service, to be inclusive, and to connect and care for people, especially those most in need. For me, that means I strive to be present with other people in an authentic human encounter. Honoring true inclusiveness with an open, honest heart sometimes requires sacrifice, but it also brings joy and fulfillment.

The Family of Joseph is a community of people who bring light to the world through acts of love and mercy. Being an active participant in the Family of Joseph means sharing our faith, living our values, and welcoming all with the same gracious, inclusive hospitality of the Sisters of St. Joseph. The Family of Joseph is a community that embraces that we are all called to be people of God and we are all companions on this journey together.

Juan and Jane Laguna

We are connected as residents of a Santa Ana neighborhood where several sisters live. We are connected as Catholics and parishioners of St. Joseph Church and St. Callistus/Christ Cathedral. We both look out for the well-being of our neighbors who need support via organizations like Taller San Jose, Wooden Floor, Thomas House, Casa Teresa, Catholic Charities, and more. As owners of an immigration law firm serving low-income families, we help people petitioning for family immigration, assist victims of crime and represent refugees and non-criminal immigrants in court. Many of our clients are referred by sisters or organizations with whom they are connected.

We understand the Sisters’ mission or charism is to share God’s love through serving and supporting the “dear neighbor”; in other words, to bring Christ into our world through service. As Catholics, we believe we are called to that same mission. The mission of the Sisters of St. Joseph means I have company.

To us, the “Family of Joseph” is a group of people connected because we share the call to share God’s love by serving our neighbors. Every human being is a child of God and the Family of Joseph is a branch of the family of God. Just like any family, different branches offer different skills and talents towards the common goal of caring for the family.

Katy Hillenmeyer

I serve as director of Mission Integration for St. Joseph Health’s local ministry in Sonoma County, California. In my eight years with the health ministry, I’ve been privileged to receive guidance and inspiration from members of the congregation, to witness their faith in action and to retrace some steps of their forebears, and to share their stories with co-workers and neighbors in my community. On a more personal note, Sr. Noreen Duffy taught my son, Luke, as a fourth-grader at nearby St. Eugene’s School, which the CSJs also founded.

I experience the Sisters as strong female role models who embody gospel values – by loving unconditionally, affirming others without distinction, and energetically sharing their gifts in service of others. I see them consistently living up to ideals that transcend religious, political and gender differences – namely, loving others without regard for what it might gain them in return, and leaving their corners of the planet better than they found them.

Our patron St. Joseph adopted Jesus as his son and embraced an unconventional, unpredictable path as a husband and father. The Family of Joseph has no boundaries. Being part of this community of dreamers calls us continually to set aside what is “comfortable” or “normal” and to stay alert to the unexpected ways the Spirit leads us, together.
No Shame
Overcoming the Stigma of Addiction Treatment

The Sisters of St. Joseph were founded on the principle of determining the needs of their neighborhood and doing their best to meet them. Sometimes that means serving the poor or establishing a local school. For Sister Christine Ray, it means helping drug addicts, alcoholics, and people with mental disorders.

For the past 18 months Sister Christine has served as an addiction counselor at Mission Pacific Coast Recovery, a part of St. Joseph Health’s Mission Hospital, in Laguna Beach, CA. This is the last stage in her Alcohol and Drug Counseling certificate program through Loyola Marymount University, which requires an ongoing accumulation of hours in the field. With the Sisters’ long-standing ties to St. Joseph Health, Mission Pacific Coast was a natural fit for Sister Christine.

It was a struggle at first to not identify as a sister for the first time in 38 years. When she saw how the decision allowed patients to feel more at ease, especially when talking about their history with religion, she knew it was the right choice. The patients’ health and recovery is what matters most.

"In the end, they don't need to know I’m a sister in order for me to help them,” she says.

The patients are a melting pot with well to-do attorneys and successful doctors sat alongside twentysomethings and homeless men and women. Most of them would never have crossed paths. Inside the treatment center they often end up helping each other toward recovery and lovingly challenge one another to do better, be better, stay healthy. Catching those moments of teamwork is one of Sister Christine’s favorite parts of the job.

"I think we’re all wounded in some degree,” she says, speaking not only of those in treatment but those too afraid or embarrassed to seek it. “Most people want you to listen to their story and help them make sense out of that story.”
So that’s what she does with every patient she encounters. Sister Christine looks at the wounded and suffering and sees the potential for wholeness. She listens to their story, all the while treating them with dignity and respect and helping them find the same for themselves.

Addicts and non-addicts alike often think getting clean is the most difficult part in recovery but there’s a deep emotional and psychological component attached to the process as well. The National Institute on Drug Addiction (NIDA) lists shame as one of the biggest factors affecting a person’s willingness to seek and accept treatment. Sister Christine sees it as one of the primary goals in this ministry to help patients see beyond that obstacle. “If I can help assist patients to look at that shame and find some way to bring healing and forgiveness, I’ve done my job.”

She doesn’t just mean for those patients either. Part of Sister Christine’s motivation lies in the hope that the more patients who learn not to be ashamed to accept treatment, the more others who are also suffering from addiction will seek treatment themselves.

That’s part of the reason Mission Pacific Coast doesn’t just treat the patients, Sister Christine says. Instead, patients are educated about addiction and provided with the resources, skills, and knowledge they need to lead a healthier lifestyle. She’s a major factor in that. In a typical day she may assist with group therapy and activities, patient assessments and meetings, and family therapy.

There are challenging moments. It’s a delicate task to keep patients safe while also facilitating the recovery of someone who has been diagnosed with bipolar disorder or another mental illness alongside their addiction. But Sister Christine takes it all in stride, never once considering that her chosen ministry singles her out. After all, healthcare ministry is certainly in the wheelhouse for a Sister of St. Joseph of Orange but addiction counseling is a rarity.

When asked if she feels her chosen ministry stands out from that of her fellow sisters, Sister Christine doesn’t bat an eye. “That’s what we’re supposed to do,” she says matter-of-factly. “Go out into the community and see how we can bring health and healing.”

**How to Help an Addict**

Addiction disorders surpass labels like “moral problem” and “bad habit.” An addict has a brain disease. People suffering from addiction need to know what triggers their relapse in order to prevent it. Financial, physical and social destruction are not a deterrent.

Programs recommended by addiction counselors can get scaled back or denied by health insurance. Demand for services is greater than the supply. Some county resources may help, but often it’s the emergency room and law enforcement that perform a short-term rescue.

People who suffer from addiction disorders are our dear neighbors. Here are a few tips to help people, and those closest to them, who face addiction.

1. **Get Educated.** Numerous resources are available online. Visit aa.org or na.org to start.

2. **Be Honest.** Denial and shame can prevent people from getting help. Admitting lack control is a big step. Addiction often runs in families. More than one person may need to look in the mirror.

3. **Seek treatment as early as possible.** The longer someone has been using, the harder it is to detox.

4. **Establish a Support System.** Get a sponsor who has gone through the experience and can be an encouragement to remain addiction free. An informed social circle can support a daily plan to avoid triggers.

5. **Realize this is a long haul.** Enduring compassion is needed.
How to Remain In Jesus

“What does it mean to ‘remain in’ a person, or even to remain in Jesus?” asked Sister Anne Hennessy. She posed this while reflecting on the readings at her Jubilee Mass. Sister Anne is celebrating her 60th Jubilee in 2015.

“An understanding of Jesus’ phrase “remain in me” can be like the American phrase “to be in sync” with him,” suggests Sister Anne. To remain in Jesus is to be actively engaged in the vocation of our daily lives, to encounter and be companion to others, to see our life as a gift to be used for the common good, and to be in some way as was Jesus’ life: “poured out.”

A life-long teacher and scholar, Sister Anne taught at Mater Dei, St. Pius X, Notre Dame de Victoires and Rosary (San Diego) high schools after entering the congregation. She studied the primitive history of the Sisters of St. Joseph, completing a Doctorate in Theology with a dissertation on the life and works of Father Jean-Pierre Médaille. Sister Anne served for a decade in Israel as the Assistant Director of the Living Water Institute while also teaching part time at Gregorian University in Rome. During this time she published The Galilee of Jesus. Sister Anne served on the Leadership Team and currently is the Assistant Director of the Center for Ignatian Spirituality at Loyola Marymount University.

Celebrating a Jubilee is a teachable moment for Sister Anne. “Remaining in Jesus often means both ‘being with’ and ‘going out to’ others in prayer and in action. It is, to paraphrase St. Paul, an invitation to ‘put on the mind and heart of Christ.’”

Sister Anne Hennessy 60 years

A Heart for Helping Others

Sister Hildegard Dittrich is tenderhearted. She loves nature, creatures of all sizes, and people of all ages. She’s been a baker, seamstress, therapist, and chaplain but when asked to describe a favorite moment in ministry, she recalled her very first year.

At the time she was a kindergarten teacher in Australia and the pastor at St. Catherine Laboure School was intent on putting more students into her classroom. “He would look in the classroom and say, ‘Oh we have more room.’ He just kept adding kids in until there were 90!”

Whether it was 90 students, running the kitchen at Queen of the Valley Medical Center in Napa, or sewing for the congregation in Orange, nothing has ever been too much for Sister Hildegard to handle. She has seamlessly transitioned from one ministry to another because she felt each fed the same passion to help others.

Sister Hildegard returned to school in the late 1970s and earned a degree in Human Services and Gerontology and a Certificate in Therapeutic Recreation.

Serving as a therapist and as a chaplain in medical centers and convalescent homes, Sister Hildegard provided a vital connection for patients who often did not have anyone else. This came to her so naturally that when she retired, Hildegard quickly took on the role of Activity Specialist for Sisters in the Memory Care Community in Regina Residence, a ministry she continues today. She serves now as she did then: with kindness, compassion, and love.
**Sister Jane Frances Wagner**  
60 years

**Seeing God’s Path**

There are many qualities that set apart a Sister of St. Joseph of Orange. Compassion. Resilience. Dedication. Diligence. Sister Jane Frances Wagner has all of these in abundance.

Before becoming a member of the congregation’s community in Australia, Sister Jane Frances intended to be an accountant. When the poor eyesight that had plagued her since she was a teen forced to give up her job in the tax department, it would have been easy to accept a life of solitude or futility. Instead she responded to God’s call to become a Sister of St. Joseph of Orange and entered the congregation in 1955. She quickly became an invaluable member.

“She could turn her hand at anything,” Sister Clare Oldfield said in admiration.

Blessed with an extraordinary memory, Sister Jane Frances has a knack for knowing the right answers to an array of questions. Need to know how to get around in Sydney? Ask Jane Frances. How do you fix a plumbing leak? Ask Jane Frances. Confused by Australian Rules Football? Sister Jane Frances can patiently and happily recite the rules, player stats, and team records. She knows them all.

A profound love for being a Sister and for Australia fed directly into her primary ministry working with young female students at Stella Maris and Rosary Villa Hostels. But she also often took on laborious tasks at the hostels too such as maintaining the grounds or doing basic maintenance.

There was never anything she imagined she couldn’t do. Her eyesight ceased to hold her back, if ever it truly did. Her eyesight ceased to hold her back, if ever it truly did. She was the first to respond when problems arose and did whatever was asked of her. No fuss, just a calm, quiet efficiency that bespoke of a deep affection for others and for her work. That’s Sister Jane Frances.

**Sister Sarah Jordan**  
50 years

**Stirring the Heart’s Imagination**

“I know the power of a waterfall,” says Sister Sarah, doing what she often does: stirring the heart’s imagination. “There was a waterfall on the side of a volcano in PNG (Papua New Guinea). You could swim underneath it. Some areas could kill you. It was exhilarating, wonderful and scary,” described Sister Sarah. This was the beginning of an answer when someone at her 50th Jubilee celebration asked her if she felt blessed. “I am one standing in a waterfall of blessing.”

Sister Sarah is full of stories and bits of wisdom that enable people to make connections inside and out. “Life is like being in a choir,” she explains. “You have your parts. Sometimes you sing with everyone, sometimes it’s a solo and sometimes you are just quiet while others sing.”

Educator, artist and spiritual director are within Sister Sarah’s vocation. Though she taught primary grades for close to 20 years, she relates to adults with ease. In 25 years as a spiritual director, one of her deepest prayers remains, “do not let me get in the way of someone discovering God.” Sarah has also served as a missionary, vocations director and in campus ministry at Loyola Marymount University. Today she is an artist in residence. Photography, ceramic commissions and sculpting absorb many hours. “The spirituality of art and the creative process really shapes people,” muses Sarah. “It stirs the treasures within.”

In PNG, everything in the culture is about relationships. “Relationships mature or disappear for a while. If you’re lucky enough, sometimes relationships come back.” Relationships occupy her prayer.

“My prayer always has gratitude, and a request to deepen relationships with God, each other and our world,” confides Sarah. “I especially thank God for the gift of life and community, and I ask for a courageous spirit to help others.”

[csjorange.org](http://csjorange.org)
Witnessing the success that a St. Joseph Worker movement was having in other regions, we hoped we could get a program started in our own backyard. Sister Joanna Rosciszewska was appointed program director with the intent to launch our own SJW program in 2015. We are off the ground!

Three brave women answered the call to be our first St. Joseph Workers (SJWs). The program asks the women to live together in community for a year (August – June), serve at sites addressing the needs of the vulnerable, and participate in activities that nurture their experience, faith and relationships. We are thrilled to introduce these pioneering women of faith: Celina Roybal, Gena Gadient and Monica Patti.

Why did you decide to become a St. Joseph Worker?

CELINA: As a teacher of 13 years I felt that I was making a difference in the lives of my students and the community, but I felt a challenge within me to take my service to a higher level. I felt deep in my heart that the SJW Program would help me become more passionate about responding to the needs of the world and make me more of a leader. The ultimate question that came to me was, “Where does God need me to be?” My call to work toward justice for the common good and go deeper with my own spirituality, helped me to open my heart and say “yes” to God’s calling of me to become a St. Joseph Worker.

GENA: Since my second year of college, I have been passionate about the programs offered through the Catholic Volunteer Network (CVN). As I was finishing school, there were an overwhelming amount of choices and pressure to apply for jobs. My heart continued to go back to working a year through the CVN. I felt a strong need to develop deeper into the person God was truly calling me to be before I “jumped” into a career. I believe the core values of this program—spirituality, social justice, leadership and community—will help me develop into that person.

MONICA: I had spent the last year preparing to graduate and leave my career in Human Resources so I could earn my Masters in Social Work. Little did I know that when I created this space for a new beginning that the Lord had a surprise in store for me. I discovered Catholic Volunteer Network randomly on Facebook. I didn’t know where the path would lead me but I kept following the breadcrumbs and praying for my way to be made clear. And here I am! I truly believe that the Lord led me to create space in my life for a new beginning and when I said “yes” to that new beginning, He generously planned an adventure I could not have imagined.

What are you doing at your site(s)?

GENA: I am at Mission Hospital. My role is in the Community Benefits Department as a Health Educator. Some of the community outreach work I will be doing includes teaching spirituality and life skills classes at Family Resource Centers, educating the public on mental health awareness, integrating a gratitude challenge for the hospital, participating in flu clinics, and being a part of their Holiday Angel Program.

CELINA: My placement is at Taller San Jose Hope Builders in Santa Ana. As an Educational Assistant, I work closely with the trainees in their Construction Technology, Clinical Medical Assisting, Administrative Billing Clerk, and Business Administration classes. My service at Taller San Jose also includes assisting Sr.
Mary Rogers with spirituality by integrating the CSJ mission into the culture of the organization.

**MONICA:** My site is Mission Hospital working as a Health Educator on the Community Benefit team. We provide multiple programs to the community as a way for the hospital to give back. Some of the programs include medical and mental health services through Family Resource Centers, community presentations to raise awareness and reduce the stigma around mental health issues and much more. I partner on projects that provide much needed services to the underserved and marginalized in South Orange County.

**Describe your life living as a community.**

**MONICA:** My little sister is also on a community life journey. She made a great statement: “for better or worse, we’re all on the same team.” I felt that described a truth that was so simple. “We’re a committed team.” We’re imperfect, we make mistakes and then worry that those mistakes will separate us. However mistakes really bring us together when we’re in it for the long haul. Every day we get a chance to give each other grace and keep going. And at the end of the year, our community will have built some unknown, intangible and beautiful creation.

**GENA:** The most beautiful thing about community life is that we all bring different gifts and experiences. What one of us can’t do, another can. We were pretty excited when we found out we were skilled in different areas of preparing food. We make pretty awesome meals when Celina is on the grill, Monica is cooking on the stove & I am baking something in the oven. Having different strengths also helps us deal with life’s struggles together.

**CELINA:** Even though we all come from different parts of the country, we have so much in common including our love for God and our strong faith values. We all value the importance of maintaining healthy lifestyles. It is a joy to eat, pray, work, and play together. One night our love for exercise brought us closer together as a community. We went from simply enjoying music on the radio to a dance party. We started with Michael Jackson and ended with a little taste of Zumba! We definitely know how to have fun.

**What is challenging and/or inspiring about the SJW program?**

**CELINA:** It is a blessing to live in community with two women that share the same faith values as I do. At Taller San Jose, working directly with people that are in need of my services and knowing that I make a difference in their lives is very gratifying and humbling. I can truly see God in their eyes through their triumphs, struggles, and gratitude. It brings me great joy to talk to my students after class as they express their gratitude for my services and mention that I helped them that day.

**GENA:** One of the most challenging parts of the program is leaving so many things that are familiar (friends, family, and career) and starting a new way of life. When we are in such new and often challenging environments we can be very vulnerable to fear, anxiety and doubt. Although this can be scary, it is also one of the most inspiring parts of the program because this place of vulnerability is where growth takes place. It really makes you trust and depend on God every minute, every day.

**MONICA:** One of my favorite and most inspiring things about our group has been spending intentional time together, especially in prayer. I feel so blessed to live in a community with other Catholic women because we share our spirituality and we have made worshiping together a priority. As a result, I have been blessed to see the power of what St. Matthew says happens where two or three have gathered together in Christ’s name, He is there in our midst. I can definitely feel the presence of Christ in this program, guiding not only my fellow program sisters but all who contribute to the program. I am certain that I’ve never been or felt so prayed for in my entire life! It’s amazing!

Follow Celina, Gena and Monica’s adventures on their Facebook page at facebook.com/stjosephworkerprogramorange.

For more info or to apply for the next program, visit our website or contact Sister Joanna at peacejr56@yahoo.com.
With Thanks
TO OUR FRIENDS

Gifts

The Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange offer sincere thanks to all those who joined us in our ministry by making gifts to the CSJ Ministry Fund between May 20, 2015 and September 21, 2015.

Saint Joseph Center, St. Joseph Health, and Taller San Jose who made gifts benefitting our ministries between April 1, 2015 and June 30, 2015.

Employees

CSJ Educational Network
Iris Cordero
Emma De Los Santos
Margaret Elliott
Leilani Leathers
Hugh McKee
Shin Hae Park-Moon
Annette Walker
Mark Williams

CSJ Ministry Fund
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Shelly Summers
David A. Szucs
Patricia Tierney
Paul Tuccio
Honorees

By special remembrance in the Sisters’ daily prayer and Mass offerings, we honor the following people at the request of their friends and relatives. The following are Honorees between May 20, 2015 and September 21, 2015.

CSJ Teachers
- by James & Barbara Major
- Sr. Anne Therese Allen
- by Priscilla Ewing
- Fr. Pedro Declercq, IHO
- by Lorraine Tunzi
- Sr. Denise Collins, CSJ
- by Clive & Olivia Dorman
- Sr. Judith Fergus, CSJ
- by Julie Molvey
- Johanna C. Pendleton
- Paul Schmidt
- by Priscilla Ewing
- JoAnn Consiglieri
  St. Joseph Hospital- Eureka
- by Judith A. Siri
- Sr. Marianna Gemmet, CSJ
- by Don Putzig
- Sr. Diane Hejna, CSJ
- by Bonnie Duckworth
- Don Putzig
- St. Joseph Hospital- Eureka
- Sr. Elena Jaramillo, CSJ
- by Adele G. Guibert
- Lorraine Tunzi
- Sr. Sarah Jordan, CSJ
- by Lyso Nguyen, MD
- Michael & Lisa Phan
- Sr. Anna Louise LeVeille, CSJ
- by Dr. Joseph Lawton
- Sr. Elaine Moffette, CSJ
- by Loretta Cargill
- Priscilla Ewing
- Sr. Ellen O’Leary, CSJ
- by Don Putzig
- Sr. Mary Jean Pejza, CSJ
- by Bradley & Lorene Crawford
- Sr. Judith Royer, CSJ
- by Roer Family Trust
- Dave Sankey
- Sr. Marianna Gemmet, CSJ
- by Judith A. Siri
- Sr. Diane Hejna, CSJ
- by Bonnie Duckworth
- Don Putzig
- Sr. Elena Jaramillo, CSJ
- by Adele G. Guibert
- Lorraine Tunzi
- Sr. Sarah Jordan, CSJ
- by Lyso Nguyen, MD
- Michael & Lisa Phan
- Sr. Anna Louise LeVeille, CSJ
- by Dr. Joseph Lawton
- Sr. Elaine Moffette, CSJ
- by Loretta Cargill
- Priscilla Ewing
- Sr. Ellen O’Leary, CSJ
- by Don Putzig
- Sr. Mary Jean Pejza, CSJ
- by Bradley & Lorene Crawford
- Sr. Judith Royer, CSJ
- by Roer Family Trust
- Dave Sankey

Memorials

The following individuals were honored with memorial gifts and have a special place in our daily prayer and Mass offerings. We pray for their eternal rest. The following are Memorials from May 20, 2015 and September 21, 2015.

Lowell Allen
- by Lowell & Esther Allen
- Michael Aprahamian
  by Richard and Constance Aprahamian
- Sr. Virginia Avellar, CSJ
  by Ernest A. Avellar
- Sr. Jean Therese Bevins, CSJ
  by Kathleen Heckendorf
- Evelyn Breed
  by Rev. Brad & Janice Karelus
- Roger Brockman
  by Viola M. Betts
- Michael & Eva Caldero
  by Patricia J. Casey
- Gilbert Chan
  by Paul and Sesi ‘Cecilia’ Cha
- Sr. Denise Collins, CSJ
  by Jean Barrett
- Florence M. Bobleter
- Valerie J. Nosari Davis
- Mary Ann Rodigan Denhart
- Sharon Duggan
- Gloria Jean Schneider Farlee
- Maureen Murphy Jenkins
- Capt. John & Kathleen McKinley, USN (Ret.)
- Patricia Murphy
- Margaret Launder Polidoro
- Rita Pyszka
- Sr. Joan Cunningham, CSJ
  by Linda Schweers Hunn
- Jack Foley
  by Kathleen S. Foley
- Rosemary Fredrich
  by Jim and Susan Fredrich
- Dempsey
- Sr. Hermana
  by Arthur & Doloris Turner
- Hope & Ernest Handell
  by Bette Barilla
- Sr. Irene
  by Arthur & Doloris Turner
- Josef A. Lopez
  by Ignacio & Maria Gonzales
- M. Felix Montgomery, CSJ
  by Nancy Curcio
- Sr. Martha Schwertner, CSJ
  by Therese Riley
- Timothy Smith
  by Kathy Smith
- Tony Waffen
  by Mary Jensen
- Angela Zelaya
  by Mercedes Borgen

In Memoriam

SISTER DENISE COLLINS, CSJ
June 29, 1933 - August 17, 2015
63 Years a Sister of St. Joseph of Orange

SISTER AGNES THERESE DUFFY, CSJ
January 7, 1923 - August 31, 2015
75 Years a Sister of St. Joseph of Orange

SISTER MARTHA MARIE LINHARES, CSJ
March 3, 1932 - September 14, 2015
54 Years a Sister of St. Joseph of Orange
Partners & Vendors

The Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange express their gratitude for the following groups and organizations who made gifts between May 20, 2015 and September 21, 2015.

Silence is Golden

Recently, I sat around a table with several Sisters and a number of my lay colleagues. The Sisters were telling us about silent retreats they have made, some lasting 10 days or 40 days. One lay person exclaimed, “How do you DO that? I don’t think I’d last one hour in silence!”

Later in the day, it dawned on me that spending time in quiet meditation with God is one aspect of stewardship. Contemplation allows me to hear how God wants me to use the gifts He gave me. In the quiet I let God take up residence in my heart.

This is what I love most about the development ministry. Each generous donor recognized in this magazine made a gift to the Sisters not only because our ministries need the financial support, but because giving has transformed the way they look at every decision they make. They are giving the Sisters a gift God has placed in their hands. Each one of them stands with the Sisters to address the troubles and needs of the world.

To reach Carol Hunold in the Development Office, call (714) 744-3121 or e-mail chunold@csjorange.org.

Online giving

You can use your credit card to support the mission and ministry of the Sisters of St. Joseph. To make a secure, online gift, go to csjorange.org. In the top right click on “Make a Gift,” then click “Donate.” Please consider making a monthly recurring gift.

Memorials make a difference

When you make a gift in memory of a loved one or a Sister of St. Joseph, you are helping to extend the mission of the Sisters wherever they are. Memorials may be sent to Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange, Attn: Development Department, 480 S. Batavia Street, Orange, CA 92868-3998, or online at csjorange.org.
Those Who Stand With Us
Ancient Acolytes: Our Friends for Decades

Father Lee, a Chaplain at St. Joseph Hospital, was a businessman before entering the priesthood. He missed talking about his old trade, so he brought together a group of hot shot businessmen in their 30s and 40s to serve as altar boys when celebrating Mass next door at the old Regina Residence. After Mass, they would have breakfast and talk about the business world. These altar boys became known as the Ancient Acolytes.

“Breakfast” soon became “breakfast with the Sisters” in the Regina Dining Room. “I look back at those times with happy memories,” says Art Turner, one of the original Ancient Acolytes. “That was one of the most enjoyable times of my life.”

Art served with other Ancient Acolytes for over ten years. The men rotated their service, setting a pattern for each Sunday. “We had to rotate so the girls wouldn’t fight over us,” laughs Art. He and his wife, Doloris, became friends with Sister Marie Jeannette Ansberry.

Gifted with real estate expertise, Art generously guided the Sisters in the purchase of a few houses. He was instrumental in acquiring the Westwood (Santa Ana) convent. With Sister Marie Jeannette, Art played a significant role in launching the Casita de San Jose ministry for foster children in the 1980s.

Art and Doloris have continued to support Catholic ministries. We are most grateful for the Turners’ long standing creative collaboration in our mission to serve the dear neighbor.

Expanding Services and Enhancing its Name

“What good are you?” The police officer’s words to the jail bound young men were meant to hurt and inspire. They worked. One of these young men, Raul, made his way to Taller San Jose, the ministry serving young people in Santa Ana through job and life skills training. That was two decades ago. Raul recently shared the story of his turnaround and enduring success. “Without Taller San Jose, I might be in jail or dead,” he mused. Today Raul has a family, a home and a career. He is one of 5100 lives transformed by the ministry.

Taller San Jose is poised to transform even more lives by broadening its reach to the city of Anaheim. By embarking on this plan, TSJ will nearly double the number of young people it helps annually with its proven model of vocational and life skills training. Within a few years, TSJ expects to impact the lives of more than 700 young men and women annually.

With the expansion of services, Taller San Jose is enhancing its name to become Taller San Jose Hope Builders. Though feelings run deep for the Taller San Jose name, the name can be challenging for non-Spanish speakers. In addition, trainees continue to become more diverse as the ministry reaches into other pockets of need in the county. Hope Builders better communicates the ministry’s identity to youth in need of its services, employers, and the larger community.

To learn more about Taller San Jose Hope Builders’ growth, visit tallersanjose.org.
The lace in 1650 is still unfinished.

O Loving God of future and of purpose, we call upon you in faith to weave the pattern of our days.

Where inspiration and guidance are needed, may we open our minds and hearts to your designs.

May vision and clarity be your gifts to us along our way.

May openness to possibilities and a cherishing of our history blend in our efforts to give shape to the future.

May you reveal to us the truth of today and lead us forth with courage.

Amen

Written by Jayne Helmlinger, CSJ

We Invite You to Join Us

Please Visit
In the spirit of hospitality, we invite you to visit our Motherhouse Heritage Room. For more information on scheduling a tour, please call Carol Hunold at (714) 744-3121 or e-mail chunold@csjorange.org.

Sundays
Please join us any Sunday for 8:00 a.m. Liturgy in our Sacred Heart Chapel.